

FOR THE MEN AND WOMEN WHO

THULE TIMES

821st Air Base Group

SERVE AT THE TOP OF THE WORLD

Thule AB, Greenland

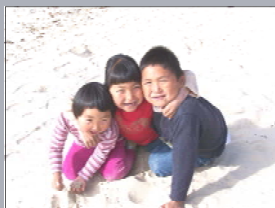
November 14, 2006

Volume 2

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Thule Times Editorial Staff

Col. Edward Fienga, 821 Air Base Group Commander

Capt Elizabeth Paul, Chief Public Affairs

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Wing wows inspectors

by Senior Airman Jessica Switzer
21st Space Wing Public Affairs

10/24/2006 - **PETERSON AFB, Colo.** -- The 21st Space Wing operational readiness and unit compliance inspections outbrief Oct. 23 at the base auditorium confirmed what wing leadership had been saying all along, the wing is "Excellent."

"I'm extremely proud of our awesome performance," said Col. Jay G. Santee, 21st Space Wing commander. "Our Airmen will do extraordinary things when we ask them to. As their commander, it was really an honor and a privilege to 'take credit' for their work on stage during the Air Force Space Command inspector general outbrief."

The colonel praised the Airmen and preparedness during a luncheon held for the wing's professional performers and teams at the Enlisted Club after the outbrief.

"We demonstrated outstanding preparedness to be ready for the three inspections," he said. "I was here two years ago for the 2004 inspections. I saw the same wing perform then and now. Today's inspection results show that we've vastly improved our readiness and compliance. "I can testify to the fact that we've come a long way in building our strength and preparedness to save the nation," he said.

There were a number of teams and individuals

recognized by the inspectors as professional performers and teams for the ORI.

ORI professional performers:

At Peterson:

Capt. Jonathan Runnels, 21st SW Director of Staff

Staff Sgt. Jeffrey Schlabs, 21st Inspector General

Senior Airman Amanda Weightman, Public Affairs

Staff Sgt. Jerrie Bennett, 21st Comptroller Squadron

Staff Sgt. Lilanae Martin, 21st Operation Support Squadron

1st Lt. Cynthia White, 21st Space Communications Squadron

Staff Sgt. Terence Brown, 21st SCS

Staff Sgt. Bobby Curry Sr., 21st SCS

Staff Sgt. David Vierling, 21st SCS

Airman 1st Class Brandon Burtch, 21st SCS

Senior Airman Tyson Johnson, 21st Civil Engineer Squadron

Mr. Justin Ochsendorf, 21st CES

Ms. Nicole Perez, 21st CES

Tech. Sgt. Aaron Thomas, 21st Security Forces Squadron

Staff Sgt. Nicholas Johnson, 21st SFS

Senior Airman Kevin Kirkland, 21st SFS

Staff Sgt. Christopher Medina, 21st SFS

Senior Airman Makelyia Sheppard, 21st SFS

Tech. Sgt. Ashly Erickson, 21st Medical Group

Tech. Sgt. Kristopher Green, 21st MDG

Staff Sgt. Timothy Reeves, 76th Space Control Squadron

Staff Sgt. Keith Rivers, 76th SPCS

At Cheyenne Mountain Air Force Station:

Senior Airman Morgan Cunningham, 721st Security Forces Squadron

Airman 1st Class Tela Fisher, 721st SFS

Staff Sgt. Danny Hayter, 721st SFS

Airman 1st Class Velvin Stitt, Jr., 721st SFS

Mr. Jonathan Sprague, 721st Civil Engineer Squadron

At Thule Air Base, Greenland:

Capt Mark Oden, 821st Support Squadron



Photo by Capt Elizabeth Paul

Col Edward Fienga, 821 Air Base Group commander, congratulates Team Thule on a job well done at the Group's ORI/UCI post party Sept 15.

Continued on page 6



tops in blue

What's Love?



By Capt Elizabeth Paul, 821 Air Base Group Public Affairs

Tops in Blue, the United States Air Force's premier entertainment group, performed at Thule Oct. 21.

Tops in Blue's 28 members took center stage in hanger 7 performing a free, 90-minute show, taking people on the "Love Train" as they showed Thule the power of love through song and dance.

This year's theme for the 2006 Tops in Blue World Tour is "What's Love?"

"What's Love is a sentimental, fun mix of songs about love to touch people's hearts," said Capt. Brian Matchik, tour director and trumpet player.

The group belted out songs by Tina Turner and Huey Lewis, sang the soulful songs of Barry White and the Temptations, and serenaded the audience with the all-American country music of Trisha Yearwood and Alan Jackson. Of course, no show about love would be complete without tender ballads by artists like Celine Dion, Rod Stewart, and Kelly Clarkson. Combined with the dazzling lights, costumes and choreography it was a show that energized and entertained the audience.

Known as the Air Force's Expedition-



ary Entertainers, this year's team of active duty military members will travel to 20 countries and perform 140 shows.

Even with the busy tour schedule, Captain Matchik said that Thule was one of the highlights of the tour.

"Thule is one of the best kept secrets in the Air Force," said Captain Matchik. "I didn't know much about Thule before I got here but I have enjoyed everything here, the camaraderie of the people, the facilities and the scenery.

"You also took great care of us," he commented. "We had everything we needed. There wasn't anything that wasn't provided."

Celebrating more than 50 years, Tops in Blue serves as an expeditionary entertainment unit providing quality entertainment from within Air Force resources for the Air Force family, with priority on Air Force personnel stationed worldwide at remote and deployed locations.

Each year, a worldwide talent search is conducted, and the top performers are chosen to join Tops in Blue for a one-year tour promoting community relations, supporting recruiting efforts and serving as ambassadors for the United States of America and the USAF.

In addition to performing, the team, under the guidance of five technical personnel, is responsible for setting up more than 36,000 pounds of staging, lighting,

audio, and special effects equipment required for each performance. Each member is assigned logistical responsibilities such as group transportation, airlift, lodging, wardrobe, palletizing, etc.

Since the first tour in 1953, the group has performed over 7,000 shows and will continue to bring a touch of home and a pride of the Air Force to their audiences.

For more information on the Tops in Blue program or how to join, visit their website at www.topsinblue.com.

(Photos by Capt Mark Oden)





By Capt Elizabeth Paul, 821 Air Base Group Public Affairs

If one arrives at Thule during the summer the constant sunlight takes some getting used to. It is amazing though, how quickly the sun disappears come fall.

As the sun vanishes for the next four months, instead of turning to hibernation in traditional Thule style, Team Thule showed up in mass to celebrate the sun's setting with a community party.

The theme for the night was 'a night of glitter' and hanger 7 was decked out with balloons, streamers and of course glitter.

"The night was a complete success," commented Lt Col Erik Eliassen, 821st Air Base Group deputy commander. "We had about 380 people show up for the party and I know everyone had a great time. Between the good food, talented bands and the great company I couldn't have asked for a better evening."

The evening began with a buffet dinner, prepared by Thule's own dining facility chefs, and had a little something for everyone.

DJ Mrs. Thang spun some tunes to warm up the crowd with a little dinner music before the real festivities of the night began as the American band Wild Gypsy took the stage.

Wild Gypsy, a six member band based out of Nashville, played two sets of music covering a wide mixture of music from 60s and 70s tunes to present day music.

Wild Gypsy was followed on stage by the popular Danish band Freak Out. The seven member group from Copenhagen got the party rocking and people on the dance floor with their high energy versions of 70's top disco songs.

"The First Night and First Light celebrations have been my "baby" for the last three years," said Gitte Stenz, Greenlandic Contractor base lodging and recreation services chief. "This was my last one since I am leaving Thule. It has been a pleasure and a privilege to be the GC coordinator on the task. I have had so much fun and I have met many nice people due to this project."

Stenz wanted to be sure to thank all the volunteers who always have been willing to help set up and tear down the hangar every year.

"We could not do it without them," she said.

First Night celebrations have been a tradition here since 2003.



Photo by Capt Mark Oden



Photo by Capt Mark Oden



Photo by Capt Mark Oden



Photo by TSgt Ray Twofeathers



Photo by Capt Mark Oden



Photo by Capt Mark Oden



Photo by Capt Mark Oden

Anniversary celebration highlights 45 years of satellite tracking excellence

By Jennifer Tribble, 22 SOPS,
Detachment 3

The Air Force's Northernmost satellite remote tracking station commemorated 45 years of operations success during a week-long celebration here Oct. 16-20.

Established October 15, 1961, Detachment 3, 22nd Space Operations Squadron, otherwise known as "POGO", is the largest of eight worldwide satellite tracking stations within the Air Force Satellite Control Network.

"Celebrating the heritage and mission success of Detachment 3 is great a honor," said Maj. Robert "Sponge" Pavelko, Detachment 3 commander. "Paying tribute to the mission and people of Team POGO reminds us of our legacy and excites us to consider what the next 45 years will bring."

Detachment 3, also known as Thule Tracking Station, was first designated Operating Location 5, a classified unit of the 6594th Test Wing (Satellite), Air Force Systems Command in 1961. Later, on June 1, 1997, Detachment 3

came under the operational control of 22 SOPS of the 50th Space Wing.

Originally introduced in 1961 as single, van-mounted antenna, Thule Tracking Station has grown into three operational antennas performing telemetry, tracking, and commanding operations for United States and allied government satellite programs and has performed more than 500,000 satellite contacts.

On hand to celebrate the efforts and mission successes of the men and woman who operate and maintain the remote tracking station were special guests Col. Robert Skinner, 50th Network Operations Group commander, Lt. Col. David Arnold, 22d SOPS commander, Chief Master Sgt. Loura Lopez, 50 NOG Command Chief, and Master Sgt. Doug Perry, 22 SOPS Superintendent.

The anniversary celebration included site facility tours as well as special recognition ceremonies for current Team POGO members. As part of personnel recognition, Col. Ed Fienga, 821st Air Base Group commander, and Mr. Brad Spink, Harris Technical Services Corporation Program Manager for the Operational Space Systems and Services contract bestowed their congratulations and delivered a

few special awards for exceptional service.

"I've been assigned to the Air Force Satellite Control Network for 28 years and am proud to have worked around the world with so many space professionals," said Ms. Sandi White, Thule Tracking Station Site Manager. "The men and women here at Thule Tracking Station consistently go above and beyond in their quest for flawless mission support and it's important we recognize their hard work."

The week long celebration culminated with a 45th Anniversary dinner at Thule's Top of the World Club attended by more than 90 Team Thule members. In addition to a special movie presentation, and anniversary toast, two of Team POGO's own participated in a symbolic cake cutting. Mr. Mike Johnson, Harris Corp., representing the station's longest serving technician, and Tech Sgt. Bryan Schubert, Thule Tracking Station's newest member ceremoniously cut the anniversary cake.

"POGOs 45th anniversary is certainly a momentous event," said Maj. Pavelko. "We are very proud to be part of Thule Tracking Station's outstanding heritage and look forward to many years of continued outstanding operations."



As part of the week long celebration Col. Robert Skinner, 50th Network Operations Group commander, Lt. Col. David Arnold, 22d SOPS commander, Chief Master Sgt. Loura Lopez, 50 NOG Command Chief, and Master Sgt. Doug Perry, 22 SOPS Superintendent visited Thule Air Base.



Team Thule celebrates 45 years of satellite tracking at POGO with a toast.

Heroes in our midst: 595th OSS commander reflects on Veterans Day

By Lt. Col. George Farfour, 595th Operations Support Squadron commander

SCHRIEVER AIR FORCE BASE, Colo. -- The pride Americans feel toward our armed forces is at an all time high. The numerous "I Support the Troops" and "God Bless our Troops" magnets and stickers are ubiquitous and much appreciated.

But as we reflect around this Veteran's Day holiday, and as those who have served in Iraq and Afghanistan in the Global War on Terrorism return and assume their place in the fabric of American life, our nation should move beyond the slogans.

A defining moment of my experience underscores this very point. Several years ago, during a visit to the Offutt Air Force Base Military Clothing Sales store, I noticed an older veteran struggling to reconstruct his military awards for display. I noticed he was having trouble reading the classification tags on the ribbons as he searched for the awards he had earned.

Not wanting to appear patronizing, I didn't offer any help at first. As time progressed and the gentleman made no headway, I felt obligated. Maybe it was the small Purple Heart pin on his hat that motivated me.

"I can't seem to find the American Defense Service Medal ribbon," the gentleman said.

I noticed a list of awards in one of his hands and ribbons and medals in the other. We worked through his list together, talking as we went. Proudly, but humbly, he indicated that he was finally going to get all of his medals assembled for display in a shadow box.

A medic during World War II and the Korean War, he'd recently received word

that he was awarded several decorations from World War II that had been forgotten. As we double-checked his list, he explained to me what each award meant.

"This arrowhead means an amphibious assault landing -- I went in on the first wave at Normandy," he told me. "This Combat Infantryman's Badge means I was in continuous combat with the enemy for over 30 days. I also got the Combat Medic's badge."

He went on to point out a "new" one -- the Prisoner of War Medal.

"They didn't have that one when I was a POW in Korea," he said. He never boasted; he simply stated what all these awards meant.

In the course of our conversation, he learned I was an Air Force officer. From then on he addressed me by my rank -- an honor that overwhelmed me.

As I walked toward my car, my thoughts turned to the hundreds of injured soldiers he must have helped during his tours as a medic: the faces he must have looked into and reassured as bombs fell around them and bullets whizzed by; the helplessness he must have felt as he watched many of those soldiers die in his arms. Each time his country called, he was ready to do what was asked and beyond.

I know in my heart that I owe him, and so many others like him who have served and continue to serve. All Americans should thank him and those like him for what we have today. As evidenced by his awards and service on the beaches of Normandy and the hills of Korea, this veteran and so many others like him served with pride and honor.



Created by Steve Ingram, Air Force News Agency

When we think of past and current wars, we tend to think of the dead. However, as Gen. George Patton said in a post-World War II speech: "Everyone always talks about the heroic dead. Well, damn-it, there's a lot of heroic alive ones out there too!" Remember that Veterans Day is about honoring the "alive ones."

We see those "heroic alive ones" every day. Perhaps wearing Veterans of Foreign Wars cap, or a suit pin, an American Legion shirt or a Purple Heart license plate. Or maybe it's more personal than that -- a relative or friend who served is moving through your lives today.

Such men and women are everywhere. We should be proud to show our veterans personal recognition, in addition to the bumper-stickers and magnets.

When military personnel are buried, the flag of the United States is folded and presented to the next of kin "with the thanks of a grateful nation." Let us not wait until after our living heroes are gone to express the thanks of a grateful nation. They are out there, everywhere. You might even meet one in clothing sales!

Continued from page 1

Staff Sgt. Otis Chatham, 821st Security Forces Squadron

Airman 1st Class Dashum Carter, 821st SFS

Airman 1st Class Artem Kamalov, 821st SFS

Airman Pedro Pita Jr., 821st SFS

Tech. Sgt. James McManus, 12th Space Warning Squadron

Capt Robert Buchanan, 821st SPTS

Tech. Sgt. Michael Montano, 821st SPTS

Tech. Sgt. Denise Hyre, 821st SPTS

Staff Sgt. Matthew Herlevi, 821st SPTS

At Holloman Air Force Base, N.M.:

Tech. Sgt. Mark Mason, 4th Space Control Squadron

Staff Sgt. Jason Dean, 4th SPCS

At Eglin AFB, Fla.:

1st Lt. Stanley Maczek, 20th Space Control Squadron

At Grand Forks AFB, N.D.:

Airman 1st Class Aaron Applewick, 319th Security Forces Squadron

ORI Professional teams:

Command Post Relocation team, 21st Space Wing Director of Staff
Aviation Resource Management Staff, 21st OSS

CMOC Solar Weather Team, 21st OSS
Echo Crew, 6th Space Warning Squadron, Cape Cod AFS, Mass.

Charlie Crew, 10th Space Warning Squadron, Cavalier AFS, N.D.

Internal Security Response Team, Security 2/2A, 10th SWS

Standardization and Evaluation Section, 12th Space Warning Squadron, Thule

Air Base, Greenland

Training Section, 12th SWS

Bravo Crew, 12th SWS

Alpha Crew, 12th SWS

Charlie Crew, 12th SWS

Standardization and Evaluation Section, 4th SPCS

Training Section, 4th SPCS

Delta Crew, 20th SPCS

Training Section, 20th SPCS

Standardization and Evaluation Section, 76th SPCS

Training Section, 76th SPCS

Damage Assessment Team, 21st CES

Nuclear, Biological, Chemical Cell, 21st CES

Fire and Emergency Services Flight, A-Shift, 21st CES

Fitness Center Staff, 21st SVS

Charlie Flight, Night Shift, 21st SFS

Police 2/2A, Day Shift, 21st SFS

Defender 5/5A, Day Shift, 21st SFS

Security Team, 21st MDG

CMAFS Button-Up Team, 21st MDG

Confrontation Management Team, 721st SFS

Confined Space Rescue Team, 721st CE

Fire and Emergency Services B-Shift

Ops Team, 721st CE

B-Shift Ambulance and Rescue Crew, 821st SPTS

Central Security Controllers, 821st SFS

Internal Security Response Team, 821st SFS

Unit Compliance Inspection professional performers and teams:**Wing Staff Agencies:**

Tech. Sgt. Francis Yeager, 21st Safety Office

Senior Airman Nishant Patel, 21st Comptroller Squadron

Margaret Leibfried, 21st Space Wing Public Affairs

Dolorina Daniels, 21st CPTS

Luis Harris, 21st Safety Office

Safety Office

Civilian Pay Team

21st Maintenance Group:

Red Switch Maintenance Team

Tech Control Facility Team

Computer Refurbishment Team

21st Operations Group:

Staff Sgt. Timothy Sikardi, 6th SWS

Staff Sgt. Michael Meier, 10th SWS

Quality Assurance Evaluators, 6th SWS

Commander's Support Staff, 10th SWS
Commander's Support Staff, 6th SWS

21st Mission Support Group:

Tech. Sgt. Andrew Fulbright, 21st SVS

Tech. Sgt. Scott Hazen, 21st SFS

Tech. Sgt. Leslie A. Jackson, 21st MSS

Staff Sgt. Maryana St. Bernard, 21st MSS

Mr. Warren McCoy, 21st MSS

Ms. Crystal Curry, 21st MSS

Customer Service Element, 21st CES

Training Flight, 21st CES

Commander's Support Staff, 21st MSS

Personnel Readiness Function, 21st MSS

Personnel Systems Management, 21st MSS

Casualty Augmentation Support Team, 21st MSS

Competitive Sourcing Management

Steering Group, 21st MSS

High Frontier Honor Guard, 21st Services Squadron

Administration Section, 21st SFS

Mobility Section, 21st SFS

Unit Safety Team, 21st Logistics Readiness Squadron

Vehicle Fleet Management, 21st LRS

Logistics Readiness Flight, 21st LRS

Specialized contracting flight, 21st Contracting Squadron

Plans and Programs Flight Systems Team, 21st CONS

21st Medical Group:

Staff Sgt. Rachel Thomas, 21st Aerospace Medicine Squadron

Staff Sgt. Brian Baker, 21st Medical Operations Squadron

721st Mission Support Group:

Tech. Sgt. Gaspar Dominguez, 721st SFS

Staff Sgt. Ryan Marquardt, 721st SFS

Video Systems Maintenance Team, 721st SCS

Quality Assurance Team, 721st SCS

Quality Assurance Team, 721st Civil Engineer Squadron

SAFTY TIP

Tis' the season for snow and ice, slipping, sliding... and winter driving.

- ♦ Now is the time to get your vehicles in good working order, including your "Little Buddy" heater.
 - ♦ Double check the socket for your vehicles hot plug and the host facilities hot plug.
- ♦ Contact the facility manager if you find one unserviceable and have them put in a work order to prevent a "shocking" experience for the next customer. The cord should not be frayed, melted, cut or cracked.

Quarterly Award Winners

Air Base Group Airman of the Quarter



Airman RoseMary Birchard,
821st Support Squadron

Air Base Group NCO of the Quarter



Tech Sgt Elizabeth Sadler,
821st Security Forces Squadron

Air Base Group SNCO of the Quarter



Master Sgt Greg Fournier,
821st Support Squadron

Air Base Group Company Grade Officer of the Quarter



1st Lt Laurel Powell,
821st Support Squadron

Air Base Group Ceremonial Guardsman of the Quarter



Tech Sgt James McManus,
12th Space Warning Squadron

Team Thule Airman of the Quarter



SrA Heidi Miller,
821st Security Forces Squadron

Team Thule NCO of the Quarter



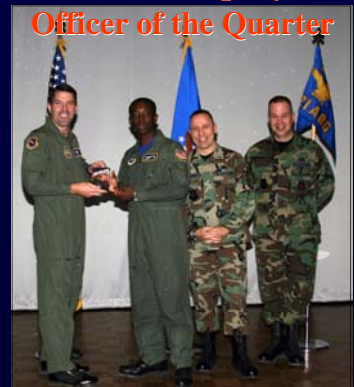
Staff Sgt Kevin Boles,
12th Space Warning Squadron

Team Thule SNCO of the Quarter



Master Sgt Dwayne Lipscomb,
821st Support Squadron

Team Thule Company Grade Officer of the Quarter



1st Lt Osei Boakye,
12th Space Warning Squadron

Special Thanks to: Tech Sgt. Raymond TwoFeathers, Senior Airman Peter Spolarich, 1st Lt. Laurel Powell, Master Sgt. Christina Miko, Master Sgt. Peter Moore, Master Sgt. Dwayne Lipscomb, Tech Sgt. James Cross, Tech Sgt. Robert Bondurant, Honor Guard, and the Communications Flight.

OPERATION Julemand Just Around the Corner

Thule Air Base's largest charity drive effort is OPERATION Julemand, from the Danish word for Santa Claus, *Julemand* [Yule-mand].

This local fund-raising effort began in 1959, and has since raised money to purchase gifts for the Greenlandic children of Qaanaaq and other surrounding villages, as well as to provide support for children and youth charities in the local area.

Funds from the previous year are used to buy gifts for the current year, while contributions raised now will go to purchase gift items for next year.

This year's gift items have already arrived and will be gift-wrapped on Thursday, 16 November 2006 at 6:30 p.m. in the Community Center. Help is always welcomed. Should you wish to participate, simply show-up. If you bring a pair of scissors, that's a bonus!

Several fund-raisers have already kicked off this year's fundraising, such as contributions to the coin drop boxes at retail counters, the selling of the Julemand coin, Run for Operation Julemand sponsorship, and a coat check at the First Night Festival. The Julemand Festival is the highlight of the charity drive, and is slated to be a day packed with events that will blow your arctic-socks off. The date of this year's festival is Saturday, 25 November 2006.

Perennial Julemand Festival goers will notice that this year's festival is different than previous years, as it has expanded to three locations: The Fitness and Sports Complex, the Community Center and the Top of the World Club.

The FSC will feature several sporting events:

■ 1000 – 1300

- **4-on-4 Wallyball Tournament** (\$1 fee for each player)
- **50-Meter Rowing Tournament** (\$5 fee)
- **Bowling Tournament** (\$5 fee, highest score wins)
- **Rock Climbing Wall** (\$1 fee, fastest climb wins)
- **Fast Pitch Baseball Throw** (\$1 for 3 throws)
- **Football Throw** (\$1 fee, most consecutive throws at target wins)
- **Basketball Free Throw** (\$1 fee, most consecutive free throws wins)

■ 1000 – 1600

- **Six hour Spinning Marathon** (\$5 fee per bicyclist) - enter as a solo bicyclist or as a rotating team of bicyclists
- Look for the sign-up sheets and rules of engagement for these events on the Event Sign-up board in the FSC. Entry fees will be collected at the time of the event.



The Community Center will feature several events from 1300 to 1700:

- **Danish Billiards** (5 tickets per player, 1st, 2nd, 3rd place winners)
- **Texas Hold-Em' Tournament** (5 tickets per player, 1st, 2nd, 3rd place winners)
- **Jail and Bail** (pay to have someone put in jail)
- **Dart Tournament** (5 tickets per player, 1st, 2nd, 3rd place winners)
- **Longest Drive Golf Simulator** (1 ticket, longest drive wins)
- **Photo Shoot with Sled Dog** (5 tickets)
- **Community Canvas** (1 ticket to paint, canvas will be auctioned later in the afternoon)
- **Souvenir Sales: Julemand Coins, T-Shirts, Mugs** (number of tickets will vary per item)
- **Food: American, Danish, and Greenlandic** (number of tickets will vary per food item)
- **Thule Diamond Chili Cook-Off** (5 tickets to enter chili, 2 tickets to taste and vote)
- **Auction** (clean and serviceable items are being accepted for donation)

- **Pie-in-the-Face Throw** (pay to have someone nominated)

Look for the sign-up sheets and rules of engagement for these events at the Community Center front desk counter. Each ticket is valued at \$1 and will be sold at the time of the event.

The TOW Club will host Thule Idol from 2100 to 2300

- Contestants sing Karaoke, with the song of their choice
- Audience members will choose their favorite contestant by donating \$1 per vote, the contestant with most votes is Thule Idol 2006
- To register as a contestant, contact POC at alisha.miles@thule.af.mil or sign up at the TOW Club casual bar
- While waiting for the winner to be announced, the audience will be entertained with a special performance.

Your attendance, participation, and samplings at this year's Julemand festival is sure to put a smile on your face, while filling your heart with a warmth that your arctic gear can't. If you'd like to volunteer in any capacity or donate an item for the auction in this year's Julemand Festival, please contact Ch Zavala at 2209, TSgt Clymer at 2677 or Maria Frida Khan at 3171.

(Courtesy of the 821 Air Base Group Chapel)

Get Out of Your Room and Have a Great Time

By Inge W. Bülck, Greenlandic Contractors site manager

In September, Thule was faced with the fact that the United States Government had a bona fide need to cut \$4 million in the Base Maintenance Contract for FY-07.

The United States Air Force and Greenlandic Contractors, as a team, succeeded in identifying the areas that would have the least impact on mission support and on quality of life for the military and civilian personnel living at Thule. Together they focused on scaling down the programs rather than cutting entire programs since Moral, Welfare and Recreation activities are so important at an isolated place like Thule – especially during the harsh winter months.

The decrease in the MWR programs means slightly fewer opening hours at the Bowling Alley, Community Center,

Library and the Arts & Crafts Center but the same variety of activities are still offered – and the various activities are still open most weekdays.

The Bowling Alley offers winter leagues, king of the hill, red pin bowling, cosmic red pin bowling, open bowling and bowling classes throughout the winter.

The Community Center offers all the activities you are used to seeing such as flea markets, movies, poker tournaments, poker school, chess tournaments and not in the least a relaxing atmosphere and an opportunity to meet new people while you watch television, play games or enjoy a cup of coffee with a Danish or some of the free fresh fruit.

The Arts & Crafts Center still offers the same level of activities as before the cut. During the months of December special Christmas activities will be offered and do not forget that the wood-

shop is still open every Sunday and a skilled carpenter is ready to help you with your wood working activities.

The HAWC is no longer responsible for the military war fitness program, but the Fitness Center does still provide individual fitness assessments upon request and offers personal guidance and training plans, together with a variety of training, sports classes and tournaments.

Soon Lake Sparum will be opened for ice skating – while it is the dark season, lightning will be set up every weekend and hot chocolate coffee and tea will be served in the little shelter at the lake.

As soon as the weather permits, usually in April, downhill skiing and cross-country skiing will be offered as well.

All in all, there is still a lot of fun activities to do in your off duty time at Thule so get out of your room, meet new people and have a great time – even if it is winter and dark.

Thule Prepares for the Dark



Photo by Lt Charles Holmes

As the light disappeared over the horizon Team Thule held their official tree lighting ceremony Friday.

With temperatures below zero degrees, about 40 members of Team Thule braved the weather to witness the tree lighting. Col Edward Fienga, 821 Air Base Group commander and Commander Tommy Toft, Danish Liaison Officer, “flipped” the switch lighting a 42 ft tree with 2,700 light bulbs in front of the 821 Air Base Group headquarters and a 20 ft star on South Mountain.

After the short ceremony, the group moved to the Community Center for hot chocolate and cookies.



Photo by Capt Mark Oden



Photo by Tech Sgt Ray TwoFeathers

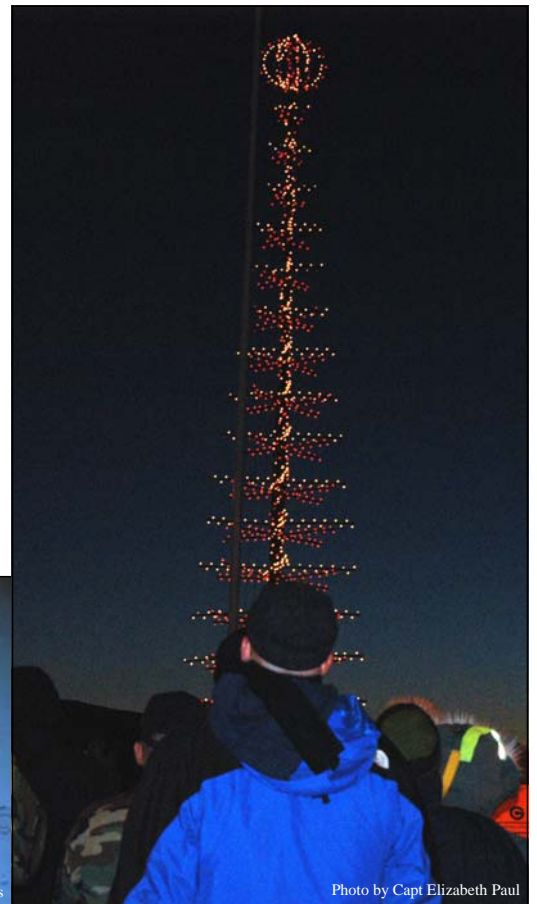


Photo by Capt Elizabeth Paul

BAE Systems Takes over Operations

From Staff Reports

BAE Systems recently took over operations and maintenance of the Solid State Phased Array Radar System here.

BAE Systems, partnered with Aleut, an Alaskan Native Corporation, won the present SSPARS contract this summer and took control of operations here Oct 1. The new contract includes five SSPARS Sites located in Clear, Alaska, Beale Air Force Base, Calif., Cape Cod, Mass., Fylingdales, U.K. and Thule, Greenland.

"The early warning of ballistic and sea-launched missile attacks is of vital national importance," said Marshall Banker, president of BAE Systems Customer Solutions. "The SSPARS contract services that strategic mission and BAE Systems will provide exceptional performance to the Air Force in support of that mission."

BAE Systems will continue to provide the same top notch professional service that has always been provided at Thule regardless of who the contractor happens to be, commented Larry McGilbray, BAE Systems site manager.

"The name has changed," McGilbray said, "but the personnel are the same with a proven commitment to excellence in the services we provide."

BAE Systems is responsible for the 24/7 operation and maintenance of the SSPARS at BMEWS Site I, military satellite communications, Precision Measurement Equipment Laboratory, local area network and sensitive

communication.

BAE Systems is the premier transatlantic defense and aerospace company delivering a full range of products and services for air, land and naval forces, as well as advanced electronics, information technology solutions and customer support services. With 86,000 employees worldwide, BAE Systems' sales exceeded GB£15.4 billion (US\$28 billion) in 2005.



Photo by Capt Elizabeth Paul

BUILDING THULE



Storm Motzfeldt from Nuuk received his apprenticeship as a carpenter for Greenland Contractors, Thule Air Base 22 Sept. The same day a reception was held for Motzfeldt and Superintendent Hans Rasmussen presented a certificate of apprenticeship to him. GC Site Manager Inge W. Bülck also presented Motzfeldt with a book called "THULE – the land farthest out".

On 3 Oct. a roofing ceremony was held for one of Motzfeldt's building projects, a creatively built shelter by the Lake Sparum. The proud Superintendent Hans Rasmussen delivered a speech in which he, among other things, said that Motzfeldt is a cheerful, good-humored young man who is eager to learn his job, thorough, and works hard to achieve good results. Thule Base Commander Edward Fienga also congratulated Motzfeldt and thanked him for a job well-done and the good work that many at Thule will benefit from for many years. (Taken from Sermitsiaq no 41 (page 9), 13 October 2006)



Thule Commentary — True professionals

By Lt Charles Holmes, 821 ABG Executive Officer

A few weeks ago I had the distinct pleasure of participating in a tour similar to “ride-a-long” with the 821st Security Forces Squadron. This opportunity came about as chance to get a better understanding of what my fellow Airmen’s roles are on base and to see how they help accomplish the mission of the base.

In my job as the Exec., I see EPRs, decorations, and miscellaneous correspondence from all agencies on base with little or no background as to what the acronyms and “lingo” specific to their respective career fields mean. At times, it can be somewhat confusing to understand why certain words are used in EPRs and decorations without that basic understanding of another individual’s career field. So, I chose to spend a Saturday afternoon with the Security Forces members.

I was impressed from the very beginning when I walked into Security Forces Control Center and the room was called to attention, not too many people do that for Lts. It did not stop there though and similar customs and courtesies were displayed throughout my tour. During my tour of the SFCC, Staff Sgt. Wayne Griggs, Senior Airman Heidi Miller and Airman Daniel Kelley explained that they are responsible for monitoring and protecting all the assets on base. I learned how they used closed circuit TVs to observe various key areas throughout their area of responsibility.

I also found out what a HELPING HAND is. I heard it several times during the ORI and saw it in their decorations, but I didn’t have a clear understanding of what it meant. To tell you the

truth, I thought it was a fancy SFS term for detaining an individual. It actually is an unclassified telephone message the SFCC relays through MWOC to 21 Space Wing Operation Center, identifying unusual incidents, possibly hostile, affecting protection level resources.

Afterwards, I was given a tour of the jail cells and armory. It was there that I learned another interesting fact. Greenlandic and Danish individuals are allowed to have privately owned weapons on island. They are stored at the armory and checked out by them for hunting/skeet shooting purposes.

After that, I was escorted up to BMEWS from the base to see what their operations are like.

To finish out the day I was able to watch an exercise scenario where an unidentified individual went through an alarmed door and within minutes, the suspect was apprehended, removed and the area secured.

It was a great experience to see what SFS does on a daily basis. I was able to be apart of something that gave me insight into what they do and it has helped me become better at what I do in my job.

Everything from the tour of the SFCC to armory to the exercise scenario is something I highly recommend any other Airmen on base sign up for. It is so important and such a great opportunity to see what other Airmen’s jobs are and how they contribute to the Air Forces mission.

Finally, I would like to thank all the individuals that took time out of their busy schedules to illustrate what they do. True professionals!

Hispanic Americans making the sacrifice

Commentary by Capt. Carlos Diaz
18th Wing Public Affairs

KADENA AIR BASE, Japan (AFPN) --

Many of us have made the trip from other countries where Spanish is the native language. Many of us share African, Spanish or Native American roots. All of us are committed to support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic.

We are Hispanic Americans serving in the military.

From the Civil War to the war on terrorism, people from places like Mexico, Spain, the Caribbean and South America have fought bravely to defend our country against those who hate our way of life and the United States of America.

Many of our parents, and even some of us, have made the sacrifice of leaving the places we grew up to adopt and cherish a new culture with a new language that values the freedom of all men and women. This country has given us the opportunity

to provide better lives for our families and to share our culture and make a contribution to America's future.

Among those who have gone above and beyond in the defense of our country, are 39 Hispanic-American Medal of Honor recipients. Names like Army Master Sgt. Roy Benavidez, who despite his severe wounds saved the lives of at least eight men while serving in Vietnam.

Marine Pfc. Fernando Luis-Garcia did not hesitate to jump on top of and cover with his body an enemy grenade to protect his fellow Marines while serving in Korea.

And Army Cpl. Benito Martínez who manned his listening post despite imminent danger while serving in Satae-Ri, Korea. These servicemembers exemplify the sacrifices of Hispanic Americans fighting in the U.S. military.

Never in my lifetime would I have imagined that after leaving Puerto Rico, I was going to be in the forefront of the war on terrorism and be able to provide comfort to those affected by the 2004 tsunami.

Now that I think about it, I probably did think about serving my country. I remember the stories of many veterans who sat and chat with my grandfather about their experiences during the Korean and Vietnam conflicts, while he waited for a medical appointment at a veterans hospital. Like my story, there are another 200,000 stories of sacrifice and courage like the ones I heard at that hospital a long time ago. Those stories are being written in Spanish and English, they sound like salsa merengue and mariachis; they taste like pozole, plantains and enchiladas; they all feel and smell like freedom.

Thousands of Hispanic Americans have given their lives to defend our way of life and paved the way for me and other Hispanic-American servicemembers and civilians who have followed their example. To the ones who went before us and opened doors to people like me, and to the country that has accepted our cultures and given us our way of life -- Gracias!
(Oct.-National Hispanic Heritage Month)

Memorial dedication to launch AF's 60th Anniversary observance

WASHINGTON (AFP) -- The nation's youngest military service kicked off its 60th anniversary observance with the official dedication of the Air Force Memorial at Arlington, Va.

The memorial, composed of three bold and graceful spires soaring skyward to a height of 270 feet, was dedicated and given to the nation by the Air Force Memorial Foundation at an official ceremony at 1:30 p.m. Oct. 14 on a three-acre promontory next to Arlington National Cemetery and a short walk from the Pentagon.

Officials said the memorial honors the millions of men and women who have served in the Air Force and its predecessor organizations, including the U.S. Signal Corps, the Army Air Corps and the Army Air Forces. It pays tribute to the dedication, sacrifice and contributions of those who pioneered the skies, those who shape the air, space and cyberspace victories of today, and those who will continue to do so in the future, officials said.

The memorial features a paved "Runway to Glory" at the site entrance; a larger-than-life bronze Honor Guard statue; two granite inscription walls located at either end of a central lawn; and a glass contemplation wall that reflects the missing-man formation, the final tribute given to fallen airmen. The memorial's surrounding spaces will be landscaped to create a memorial park and parade ground overlooking the nation's capital.

The dedication ceremony included an aerial review consisting of aircraft from the 1930s through modern day, from the B-17 Flying Fortress and B-24 Liberator of World War II fame to the B-2 Spirit and C-17 Globemaster III, as well as a five-ship "Heritage Flight" featuring the P-51 Mustang, the F-86 Sabre, the F-4 Phantom, the F-15 Eagle and the F-22 Raptor. The U.S. Air Force Thunderbirds also performed a flyover and "bomb-burst" maneuver reflecting the design of the memorial's three spires.

The Air Force also hosted an open house at Pentagon South Parking from 9



U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. Larry A. Simmons

Memorial dedication to launch AF's 60th Anniversary observance
Organizers make final preparations for the dedication ceremony of the Air Force Memorial, in Arlington, Va., on Oct. 12. The memorial's dedication ceremony kicks off at 9 a.m. Oct. 14.

a.m. to 5 p.m. Oct. 14. In addition to the live simulcast of the dedication from 1:30 to 3 p.m., the open house featured performances by the U.S. Air Force Drill Team and the U.S. Air Force Band's high-energy "Max Impact" ensemble, a "Heritage Parade of Uniforms," a concert by country singer Lee Ann Womack and a variety of interactive displays and exhibits showcasing America's airmen, Air Force equipment, technology and aircraft.

Static aircraft displays included the Predator and Global Hawk unmanned aerial vehicles; UH-1, HH-60, MH-53 helicopters; the CV-22 tiltrotor aircraft; and an F-35 Joint Strike Fighter display model.

The weekend concluded with a memorial service Oct. 15 at 10:30 a.m. at the memorial site. Officials participated in a wreath-laying ceremony punctuated by a missing-man formation flown by F-16



Tech Sgt Christopher Matthews

The Air Force Memorial Honor Guard statue keeps watch at the memorial and represents honor guard members, past and present who have served their country in that capacity.

Commentary: 2006 proves deadly year for AFSPC

Col. Chris Hale

Air Force Space Command Director of Safety

PETERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Colo. — 2006 was a deadly year for safety-related fatalities in Air Force Space Command; the worst since 2001.

The command lost five Airmen; one drowned in a river, two died riding on motorcycles and two died in automobile collisions. All five incidents were preventable, and poor decision-making played a major role in determining the outcome. Jumping into very cold water, even on a hot day, can be quite a shock to the body, making it difficult to swim. Riding motorcycles without a helmet or taking a corner at more than twice the posted speed limit is outside the acceptable risk envelope. Riding in a car without your seatbelt buckled, even for a moment, invites disaster. Five poor decisions — five deaths.

In both of the automobile fatalities all of those who were wearing seatbelts remained in their vehicles and survived. All who were not were thrown from the vehicles and died. Statistically, those who don't wear seatbelts are 29 times more likely to be ejected from their vehicles and, if ejected, have a 75-percent chance of dying. The safest place in an automobile accident is inside the vehicle and the best way to stay in the vehicle is to wear a seatbelt. It's not magic, it's not fate. It's just physics.

In a collision, passengers inside the vehicle keep traveling at

the same speed the car was going before the impact. As a result, unbelted passengers slam into windshields, steering wheels, dashboards, other passengers and other interior parts of the car. Many suffer severe injuries — some die. Seatbelts keep vehicle occupants in place making them less likely to run into those objects. Seatbelts also help your body absorb the impact by spreading the forces of the crash across the strongest parts of your body, the bones of your hips, shoulders and chest.

In a rollover crash, injuries to an unbelted person can be even more severe. As the vehicle rolls inertia tends to fling all loose objects toward the outside walls of the vehicle — like tennis shoes in a dryer. Shattered glass windows become open holes allowing loose objects to be ejected, many of them slamming into interior structures on the way out. Bodies that fly clear of the rolling vehicle often hit other objects or are struck by other vehicles. Some victims only partially eject and suffer paralyzing injuries as the vehicle rolls over them repeatedly. It is a fast-moving, chaotic environment full of death and destruction.

Why dwell so much on vehicle collision physics and seatbelts? Because riding in vehicles is so much a part of everyday life, people tend to discount the dangers presented at every mile. There is probably no other everyday activity that has the potential to change from tedious to terrifying in the blink of an eye. And there is no other safety device that has been proven more effective at saving lives than the seatbelt. Please buckle up, ensure others do the same and live to tell the story.

8th Air Force to become new cyber command



U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. Cohen Young

Secretary of the Air Force Michael W. Wynne announces that 8th Air Force will become the new Air Force Cyberspace Command at the 6th Annual C4ISR Integration Conference in Crystal City, Va., Nov. 2. Cyberspace Command will be led by Lt. Gen. Robert J. Elder Jr.

by Staff Sgt. C. Todd Lopez
Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON (AFP) -- During a media conference here Nov. 2, Secretary of the Air Force Michael W. Wynne said the 8th Air Force would become the new Air Force Cyberspace Command.

"I am announcing the steps the Air Force is taking towards establishing an Air Force Cyberspace Command," the secretary said. "The new Cyberspace Command is designated as the 8th Air Force... under the leadership of (Lt. Gen. Robert J. "Bob" Elder Jr.) He will develop the force by reaching across all Air Force commands to draw appropriate leaders and appropriate personnel."

Secretary Wynne said the 67th Network Warfare Wing, now under 8th Air Force, and other elements already within the 8th, would provide "the center of mass" for the nascent Cyberspace Command.

The secretary also said Air Combat Command, Air Force Space Command and Air Force Materiel Command are working to develop the new Cyberspace Command, while Air Force personnel specialists are working to develop educational plans and career paths for those Airmen that will work within the new command. "The aim is to develop a major command that stands alongside Air Force Space Command and Air Combat Command as the provider of forces that the President, combatant commanders and the American people can rely on for preserving the freedom of access and commerce, in air, space and now cyberspace," Secretary Wynne said.

Air Force leaders will begin detailed planning for the new Cyberspace Command Nov. 16 at the Cyber Summit. During the summit, Air Force leaders will chart a way ahead for the Air Force's role in cyberspace, also called the cyber domain.

Notes From Around the Air Force: LADSC Waiver Program begins Oct. 30

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas (AFPN) -- Beginning noon CST Oct. 30, master and technical sergeants in specific overage Air Force specialty codes may apply to have certain active duty service commitments waived allowing them to retire if eligible.

The Limited Active Duty Service Commitment Waiver Program forgives the following ADSCs for master and technical sergeants who will have 20 years total active federal service by their requested retirement date which must be on or before Sep. 1.

The full amount of the ADSC waiver is authorized for permanent change of station, professional military education, Air Force Institute of Technology (master's),

Air Force Educational Leave or Absence (Bootstrap) and technical training. For promotion, 18 months is authorized and there is no ADSC for technical sergeant. LADSC eligible Airmen serving accompanied overseas tours must apply to retire the first day of the month following their date expected to return from overseas if their DEROS is in the month of August or prior. If the members DEROS is in the month of September or after the member must request to retire on Sep. 1. Applications for LADSC will be accepted on a first come, first serve basis. For more in-depth information about the LADSC Waiver Program visit the Air Force Personnel Center Force Shaping Web site.

Overseas quarterly assignment listings

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas – The Enlisted Quarterly Assignment Listing for overseas requirements for July - September 2007 will be available Nov. 3. Airmen need to work through their military personnel flights, commander's support staff or vMPF to update their

preferences by Nov. 17. Deployed personnel must work with their personnel support for contingency operations, or PERSCO, to update assignment preferences. Airmen will be notified of their selection by Dec. 15. EQUAL advertises upcoming assignment requirements, by Air Force

Specialty Code and rank. Members are instructed to review, prioritize and update their assignment preferences based on the EQUAL list. Airmen can view the list on the Assignment Management System on the Air Force Personnel Center's Web site or at the local MPF.

Phishing and Pharming

Phishing involves fake e-mails that appear to come from legitimate sources. These e-mails usually urge you to **act quickly** because your account may be suspended or closed. They don't address you by name, but will use more **generic language** like "Dear Valued Customer". They may ask for account numbers, passwords or other **personal information**. Oftentimes these e-mails also contain misspelled names or words and unknown attachments.

Pharming involves redirecting Internet users to fake websites, even when they enter the correct web address. These sites often look real enough, but secretly collect any personal information and passwords entered. If the website has one, beware of any changes to the login screen. Any requests that seem out of the ordinary or changes to your web browser (e.g. home page or toolbars look different) or even slower performance in your computer.

Trojans are unfriendly programs that appear useful – like a game or helpful program – but actually cause damage. They can be delivered via spoofed emails and malicious websites.

Fortunately, there are steps you can take to protect yourself and the network.

- 1) Never download software from a source you don't trust.
- 2) Don't open e-mails, link, attachments or images from senders you don't know.
- 3) Never select the option to store passwords in your browsers, such as the "check to remember feature. Malicious programs can find and transmit this information to thieves.
- 4) Never reply to e-mail requests for personal or financial information such as account numbers or passwords.

The Air Force will never, ever ask you for your password over email or telephone.

CLEP/DANTES Test Examination Survey

An Education Specialist from Peterson Air Force Base Education Office will be visiting Thule 29-30 Nov. This is a great opportunity to earn college credits.

Successful completion of CLEP/DANTES tests can help Air Force members complete their undergraduate degree programs by demonstrating college level knowledge in many subject areas. Enlisted members can use a maximum of 30 semester hours of examination credit toward completion of their Community College

of the Air Force degree.

To plan for an upcoming test session to be conducted at Thule, please identify the CLEP and/or DANTES tests you would like or need to take, by completing a survey provided by Capt Michael Hulin, base education officer. The deadline to sign up for the tests is 22 Nov.

For more information contact Captain Hulin at ext. 2411, via e-mail at Michael.Hulin@Thule.af.mil or visit the education server at \\wwcxsl12-edu-01\Education.



Operation "Head Shaving"



Six members of Team Thule raised over \$560 for Operation Julemand by sacrificing their hair Saturday. Col Edward Fienga, 821 Air Base Group commander, Lt Col Erik Eliassen, 821 ABG deputy commander, and Senior Master Sgt Vincent Marler, 821 Support Squadron complex chief controller, were pre-selected to have their heads shaved while Tech Sgt Ray TwoFeathers, 821 SPTS TRACAB watch supervisor, and Tech Sgt Jayson Laughlin, 821 SPTS traffic management office, were volunteered by popular vote. Tech Sgt Michael Seekamp, 821 ABG chief of safety, was a surprise entry when over \$100 was raised in five minutes to nominate him. Tech Sgt Kevin McGarry headed the drive, collecting nominations and selling tickets for the privilege of shaving a head.



Senior Master Sgt Vincent Marler, 821 Support Squadron complex chief controller, checks to see how much hair is left as



Lt Col Erik Eliassen, 821 Air Base Group deputy commander, tries to see what Senior Airman Laura Flores is doing to his head.



Col Edward Fienga, 821 Air Base Group commander, tries to sit still as Capt Elizabeth Paul shaves his head to raise money for Operation Julemand.



Tech Sgt Jayson Laughlin, 821 Support Squadron traffic management office, cringes as he sees his hair fall away courtesy of Rachel Kasic expert haircutting abilities.



As a last minute entry Tech Sgt Michael Seekamp, 821 Air Base Group chief of safety, was ambushed with clippers by Staff Sgt Rose McKinney and Tech Sgt Derek Magnusson.



Tech Sgt Ray TwoFeathers, 821 Support Squadron TRACAB watch supervisor, insists Debra Bills "clean up his head" after Maria Villaume shaved it.

Photos by Capt Elizabeth Paul and Staff Sgt Justina Meyers



Photo by Tech Sgt Ray TwoFeathers



Photo by Tech Sgt Ray TwoFeathers



Photo by Tech Sgt Ray TwoFeathers



Photo by Tech Sgt Ray TwoFeathers



Photo by Tech Sgt Bryan Schubert



Photo by Capt Elizabeth Paul



Photo by Tech Sgt Bryan Schubert



Photo by Tech Sgt Bryan Schubert



Photo by Capt Elizabeth Paul